

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 03204 122146Z
ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 INRE-00 SSO-00 /040 W
-----035632 122205Z /21

O R 122108Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4936
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTO DOMINGO 3204

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, ELAB, DR
SUBJECT: LABOR PRACTICES OF ROSARIO RESOURCES CORPORATION

REFS A. STATE 144048, B. STATE 94327

1. ALTHOUGH ROSARIO HAS HAD ITS SHARE OF PROBLEMS HERE, THEY
HAVE NOT RPT NOT BEEN IN THE AREA OF LABOR RELATIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO ROSARIO'S PRESIDENT HUGH BRACHE, THE FIRM'S
RELATIONS WITH UNIONS HERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SATISFACTORY.
WAGE RATES, WHILE NOT AS HIGH AS THOSE OF FOREIGN MINING
VENTURES WITH A LONGER HISTORY IN THE DR, ARE FAR IN EXCESS OF
WAGES PAID IN PURELY DOMINICAN FACILITIES. EMBASSY'S FILES REVEAL
NO NEGATIVE INFO RE ROSARIO'S REPUTATION IN LABOR AREA.

3. BRACHE INDICATED THAT US SAFETY STANDARDS ARE USED IN THE
PUEBLO VIEJO MINE OPERATION, SINCE DR HAS NO SAFETY STANDARDS OF
ITS OWN.

4. BENEFITS TO WORKERS INCLUDE: AN ALL-EXPENSE-PAID HEALTH
INSURANCE PLAN (UNIQUE IN DR); SCHOLARSHIPS; HOUSING; SUBSIDIZED
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MEALS; BONUSES LARGER THAN REQUIRED BY LAW; SCHOOLS AND WATER
WORKS TO COMMUNITY.

5. ROSARIO'S MAJOR PROBLEM HERE HAS BEEN THE SETTLEMENT OF
CAMPESINO CLAIMS RESULTING FROM ROSARIO'S PURCHASE OF PUEBLO
VIEJO MINE SITE. APPARENTLY, CAMPESINOS SAW LITTLE OF THE MONEY
ORIGINALLY PAID BY ROSARIO TO THE CAMPESINOS' ATTORNEY IN

PURCHASING THE LAND ON WHICH THE MINE IS LOCATED. ALTHOUGH ROSARIO'S LEGAL OBLIGATIONS HAD BEEN MET, IT OFFERED TO FUND THE RESOLUTION OF ALL CLAIMS, PROVIDED THAT THE CLAIMS WERE ADJUDICATED BY THE LOCAL BISHOP RATHER THAN ROSARIO. THIS ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN QUITE EFFECTIVE, AND ROSARIO REPORTS A COMPLETE TURNAROUND IN ITS COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

6. EMBASSY PLANS TO VISIT MINE SITE WHEN ROSARIO'S MANAGER RETURNS FROM US, AND WILL REPORT FURTHER IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL AS WELL AS STATE 94327 (ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES).
AXELROD

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Message Attributes

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